

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

ADDRESS REPLY TO:

Commanding Officer
USCG Loran Transmitting Sta.
APO 68 c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.



15 June, 1956
A7
Serial: 145

From: Commanding Officer, CG LORSTA, NIIGATA
To: Commandant (PO-2)
Via: (1) Commander, Far East Section
(2) Commander, 14th CG District

RECEIVED
JUN 16 1956
COMDR, FAR EAST SECT

Subj: Overseas Loran Station Survey

Ref: (a) COMDT (PO-2) ltr of 22 May, 1956, A7

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following report is submitted.
2. (a) The Cost of Living.

(1) Approximately \$7.00 a month is needed for laundry and dry cleaning bill and for the house boy services. The mess bill for officers will run from \$25.00 to \$50.00 a month, depending on how many meals are taken aboard the station. Meals at the Officer's Club at the Air Base will average about \$1.00. There are approved restaurants in town but it is not advisable to frequent these.

(2) At the Air Base, membership fees at the various clubs are:
Officer's Club - \$4.00 per month
N.C.O.'s Club - \$1.00 per month
Airmen's Club - \$1.00 per month

(3) There are good shopping opportunities in Niigata and at the Air Base. The amount of money spent for shopping would depend on the individual. The minimum amount of money needed for officers would be approximately \$50.00 a month and \$20.00 a month for enlisted men. It should be emphasized that this is the minimum amount needed. Over the past year, this Commanding Officer has spent an average of \$150.00 a month. This included the mess, laundry, cleaning bills, house boy services, Officer Club dues, shopping, upkeep of an automobile, etc.

(b) Recreational Facilities

(1) Some of the recreational facilities available at the Air Base are:

Officer's Club	N.C.O.'s Club
Airmen's Club	Service Club
Gymnasium	Tennis Courts
Miniature Golf	Movies
Photo Lab	Hobby Shop

(2) Some of the recreational facilities available at the Loran Station are:

Movies	Basketball
PingPong	Volley Ball
Badminton	Photo Lab
Amateur Radio	Model Building
Beach with swimming	during the summer months.

CO, CGLORSTA, NIIGATA
to Commandant
via COMFESEC, CCGDL4

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(c) Dependent Facilities

(1) LORSTA NIIGATA is classified as an isolated station and dependents are not authorized.

(d) Climatic Conditions

(1) The climate of Niigata is very similar to New England. The latitude of the station is 38° North. The summer is short, July and August, hot and dry. The temperature ranges from 90° to 100° during the hottest part in August.

(2) Fall is very pleasant, The temperature and there is little rain, This season lasts until the end of November.

(3) The winter is wet with some snow of short durations. The lowest temperature is around 20° and is during the month of January. During this period there are also strong winds which cause a problem of blowing and drifting sand on the station.

(4) Spring starts in March with alternately mild, dry and pleasant periods and wet and cold periods. This lasts until the end of June.

(e) Description of Station

(1) There are eight buildings located in one corner of a thirteen acre plot. These are the barracks, mess hall, galley and recreation deck; Garage and DC shop; Commanding Officer's building; Generator Building; Loran building; Equipment building and Paint locker.

(2) The barracks building has seven enlisted men rooms and one CPO room with a combination head, shower and laundry room. All the personnel except the SN and third class petty officers have private rooms. These men live two to a room.

(3) The mess hall and recreation hall are combined with the galley on one end of the building. The crew eat at one table, family style and the Commanding Officer and the CPO eat at another table, wardroom style.

(4) The garage and DC building is divided with the garage on one end and the DC shop on the other.

(5) The Commanding Officer's building contains the station office, wardroom, CO's bedroom and bath and electronic parts stowage.

(6) The generator building consists of two trailers connected together to form a single building. Each trailer has two generators and their switch gear. The center portion is the work area and spare parts stowage.

CO, CGLORSTA, NIIGATA
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(e)(7) Like the generator building, the loran building consists of two trailers connected together to form a single building. One trailer contains the timers and switch gear, and the other the transmitters. The center portion is a work area with the watch supervisor's desk and files.

(8) The equipment building is used for stowage of large and miscellaneous items.

(9) The paint locker is a small separate building used for stowage of all paint and inflammable liquids.

(f) Private Cars

(1) A car is very useful in Niigata. The roads in and around Niigata are very good by Japanese standards and are fair to good by American standards.

(2) A person shipping a car to Niigata will first have it shipped to the Navy at Yokohama or Yokosuka. From there it will have to be shipped to Niigata via Japanese railroad. This will cost approximately \$50.00

(g) Frequency of Mail and Supplies

(1) Mail is delivered to Niigata three times a week by courier plane from Tachikawa Air Base near Tokyo. During the winter months, due to bad weather, the plane is not able to land on schedule and it is a week or so between mails.

(2) Except for those shipped on an Air Bill of Lading, all supplies come to the station via Japanese rail. There are three trains daily from the Tokyo area. Supplies on an Air Bill arrive on the mail plane.

(h) Medical Facilities

(1) A class "A" dispensary is located at the local Air Base. This dispensary is capable of handling all routine dental and medical problems. It is also equipped for emergency operations, etc. There are facilities for Air Evacuation to the USAF Hospital at Tachikawa Air Base. With this facility the more serious cases can be delivered to a well equipped and staffed hospital in a matter of two or three hours.

(i) Advantages and Disadvantages

(1) The station here at Niigata has been referred to as The Flower of The Pacific. The two main advantages of the station is its location near a large city and near an Air Force base. Many items needed for the operation and maintenance of the station can be repaired or procured either at the Air Base or in town. This greatly aids the Commanding Officer and helps the general supply of the station. Because Niigata has modern stores, the opportunity to purchase items that are considered excellent buys such as cameras, copper ware and china is available. The station is located on the only authorized beach in this area and during the summer months swimming is a very handy and enjoyable pastime.

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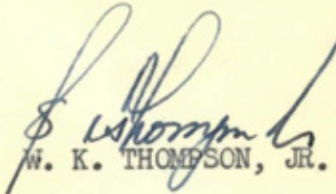
18 June 1956
A7

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to CO's CGLORSTA NIIGATA ltr A7 dtd 15 June 1956

From: Commander, Far East Section
To: Commandant (PO-2)
Via: Commander, 14th CG District

Subj: Overseas Loran Station Survey

1. Forwarded.

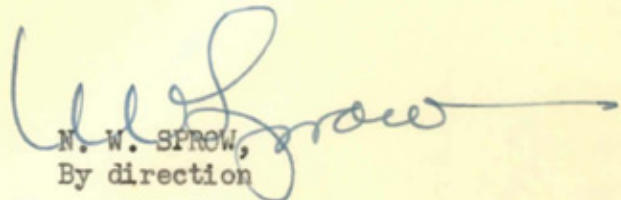

W. K. THOMPSON, JR.

P
27 June 1956
A7

SECOND ENDORSEMENT

From: Commander, 14th CG District
To: Commandant (PO2)

1. Forwarded.


N. W. SPROW,
By direction